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APPLICATION

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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

December 4, 2001

Applicants:

Hiromichi INAGAKI et al

For

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(if known, see 37 CFR 1.5):

Unknown

Atty. Docket No.: Komatsu Case 260

Box PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT BEFORE FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Prior to issuance of the first Office Action in the above-identified application, kindly enter the following:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract with the new Abstract of the Disclosure enclosed herewith. A marked-up copy is also enclosed herewith.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows. Marked-up copies of amended paragraphs are enclosed herewith.

Please amend paragraph [0006] as follows:

[0006] Methods that have been used to weaken the adhesive strength of the adhesive include adding a synthetic resin or an inorganic material to the adhesive, and applying the adhesive in dots. Another way is to process the article surface to be brought into contact with the adhesive surface so as to provide a dotted pattern thereon, thereby reducing the contact surface area thereof, or to apply a release agent, so that the adhesive surface may be made mechanically easier to handle.

3/A C.f. 4/